

S T SIGNAL S

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ACRL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SECTION

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IN THIS ISSUE:

STS Committees-Contacts & Purpose	2-3
STS New Orleans Schedule	3
STS New Orleans Program Speakers	4
Committee Notes for San Antonio & New Orleans	5-6
Executive Committee Decisions	7
STS Candidates for Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect.....	8

FROM THE CHAIR, KATHY CHIANG. Cornell University

Things are happening in STS. We are undergoing a 'growth spurt.' At last count we had over 1,600 members. In the last two years we have been busy establishing new committees to allow us to channel the energy from all our members into interesting activities for the Section and for science and technology libraries. We are one of the target groups for special support in the ACRL Strategic Plan, so we might be able to get funding for a Pre-conference program. BIOSIS is helping with the reception this year, and Chemical Abstracts is interested in helping us next year. We have a new Legislative Ad Hoc Group to discuss issues such as the threat to privatize NTIS and the on-again, off-again Fisheries Review and Wildlife Review from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

We are also talking about running a poster session/research reporting discussion section at Midwinter to see if the Section can take a more active role in disseminating research by science and technology librarians. Our program this year is about the influences and implications of the electronic technologies for libraries, and next year the subject is Biotechnology. Altogether it is an exciting time, read all about it in this issue of the Signal and see you in New Orleans!

FROM THE VICE CHAIR, LAURA OSEGUEDA, North Carolina State Univ.

One of my primary duties and privileges as Vice Chair of STS is to make committee appointments for the coming year. I was pleased to hear from both new and old section members. Happily, most volunteers were matched up with committee assignments. For those who did not receive an appointment this year, I will be forwarding your forms to the new Vice Chair. Through conscious effort to reduce the number of multiple committee appointments, and provide a structure for committee rotation, the Executive Committee of STS hopes to continue to involve a larger number of section members in the work of STS committees.

NEW ORLEANS STS RECEPTION AT THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION

MONDAY, JULY 11, 1988, 5:00-7:00PM

ADDRESS: 533 ROYAL STREET, near middle of French Quarter

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

Executive Committee*Chair*

Katherine Chiang
Albert R. Mann Library
Cornell Univ.
Ithaca, NY 14853-4301
(607) 255-2199
BITNET: anmj@cornella

Past Chair

Sheila Johnson
Edmon Low Library
Oklahoma State Univ.
Stillwater, OK 74078-0375
(405) 624-6309

Vice Chair/Chair Elect

Laura Osegueda
DH Hill Library, Box 7111
North Carolina State Univ.
Raleigh, NC 27645
(919) 737-2935
BITNET: lmo@ecsvax

Secretary

Barbara Kautz
Entomology, Fisheries and Wildlife
Library
Univ. of Minnesota
1980 Folwell Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55108
(612) 624-5376

Members at large - 2 (proposed)

Ad Hoc Legislation To serve as a focus for section member concerns about legislative issues and to cooperate with other ACRL and ALA legislative groups as needed.

Frederick Sepp, Life Sciences Library
205 East Patee, Penn. State Univ.
University Park, PA 16802 (814) 865-7056
BITNET: FCS@psulias

Membership Maintain a history of member participation, maintain lists of volunteers for the nominating committee's use and for the vice-chair to assure a balance of appointments, both in the number of appointments of each individual member and in percentages of experienced versus new members. Create and update a recruitment brochure. Publish the list of committees and their members for the executive committee.

Maria Porta, Agriculture Library
Univ. of Illinois, 1301 W. Gregory
Urbana, IL 60801 (217) 333-2416

Newsletter Write, edit, and publish the section newsletter. Coordinate reports of section activities for inclusion in the newsletter.
Deborah Dawson, Science Library
Univ. of Wyoming, Box 3262 University Station
Laramie, WY 82071 (307) 766-4264

Nominating

Oberly Select winner of Oberly Award.
Carolyn Warman, Newman Library
Virginia Polytechnic
Blacksburg, VA 24061
BITNET: godair@VTM1

Planning Provide long range direction for the section. Propose new activities, review suggestions from the membership, perform section reviews as required.

John Abbott, Forest Resources Library
North Carolina State Univ., Box 8001
Raleigh, NC 27695-8001 (919) 737-3513
BITNET Abbott@ecsvax.bitnet

Section Liaison to ACRL

Eleanor Mathews, *Past Past Chair*
University Library
Iowa State Univ.
Ames, IA 50011
(513) 294-3642

ACTION COMMITTEES

Comparison of Science and Engineering Libraries

To collect, analyze and distribute comparative information on North American academic science and technology libraries.

Emerson Hilker
Physical Sciences and
Engineering Division
Oklahoma State Univ.
Stillwater, OK 74078-0375
(405) 624-6321

Robert Michaelson
Seeley G. Mudd Library for
Science and Engineering
Northwestern Univ.
2233 Sheridan Road
Evanston, IL 60208
(312) 491-3057

Conference Program Planning I

Plan program for meeting chaired by current chair. K. Chiang

Conference Program Planning II

Plan program for meeting chaired by vice-chair/chair elect. L. Osegueda

Discussion group Provide a forum for discussion of issues of concern to STS librarians not under the responsibility of any of the standing committees.

Marty Kesselman, Information Services Librarian
Library of Science and Medicine
Rutgers Univ., PO Box 1029
Piscataway, NJ 08854 (210) 932-4728

Publisher Relations To serve as a channel for section members to transmit their concerns to publishers of science and technology information.
Colleen Powers

Meriam Library
California State Univ.
Chico, CA 95929-0295 (916) 895-4058

Science Databases discussion group Provide a forum for discussion of issues in scientific databases.
 Susanne Redalje
 Chemistry Library, BG-10
 Univ. of Washington
 Seattle, WA 98195 (206) 543-2070
 BITNET: sjr455@uwacdc

Subject and Bibliographic Access to Science

Materials Provide forum for exchange of information of use to librarians (written - column in STS Signal, discussion groups) Serve as a channel/clearinghouse for concerns, problems, issues. For issues that can be resolved, propose projects, present them to planning committee.

Sara Shatford Layne PSTL Cataloging Division
 Mail: 1735 S. Sherbourne Dr. 8251 Boelter Hall, UCLA
 Los Angeles, CA 90035 405 Hilgard
 Los Angeles, CA 90024
 (213) 825-3438

Task Force on Proceedings

Finding Aids
 Barbara DeFelice, Kresge Physical Sciences Lib.
 Dartmouth College
 Hanover, NH 03755 (603) 646-3845
Importance of Conference Proceedings
 Denise Bedford, 12307 Lima Dr.
 Silver Spring, MD 20904
 (301) 454-7332 Wk. (301) 622-5361 Hm

**Science and Technology Section Meetings
 ALA 1988 - New Orleans**

Saturday July 9th	9-11 2-4	Executive Committee and <u>Task Force on Proceedings</u> Discussion Group
Sunday July 10th	8:30 - 12:30 9 - 11 9 - 11 9 - 11 9:30 - 12:30 2 - 5:30	Conference Program Planning, New Orleans Membership Oberly Award Committee Ad Hoc Legislative Committee NEW COMMITTEE, initial topic: <i>Wildlife and Fisheries Reviews</i> , + other member concerns. All interested STS members welcome, check the "flyer" schedule for room. Publisher Relations -Requested longer meeting time, official program may list 2-4. Committee on Subject and Bibliographic Access to Scientific and Technical Information
Monday July 11th	8:30 - 12:30 9 - 11 2 - 4 2 - 4 2 - 4 5 - 7 7 - 9 (p.m.)	Conference Program Planning, Dallas Nominating Committee Planning Committee -Supersedes time listed in official program, check with chair for meeting room or consult the "flyer schedule". Science Databases Discussion Group Comparison of Science and Engineering Libraries RECEPTION, Historic New Orleans Collection, co-sponsored by BIOSIS Newsletter Committee -Supersedes time listed in official program, check with chair for meeting room or consult the "flyer" schedule.
Tuesday July 12th	9 - 12 2 - 4	PROGRAM: Libraries Without Walls Executive Committee -May not appear in official program, check the final "flyer" schedule.

Check the flyer distribution table at New Orleans for the final meetings list.

NEW ORLEANS STS PROGRAM

The 1988 STS Program Committee is pleased to announce the STS Program for the New Orleans conference is:

LIBRARIES WITHOUT WALLS: EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION ACCESS

This program will examine CD-ROM, networking, full text... Can libraries control the information explosion? Are we slipping back as technology surges forward? Libraries Without Walls explores information access in the electronic age.

Keynote Speaker: Robert Hayes, Dean, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, UCLA

Discussion Session Speakers: Nancy Evans, Beth Warner, Helen Josephine, Mark Chignell, Constance Miller, David Kohl, Danuta Nitecki, and Henry Schaffer

Through one theme session and eight discussion sessions this program will explore the issues concerning the electronic integration of academic information. Attendees will have the opportunity to choose which four of the eight discussion sessions they would like to attend.

The focus of the discussion sessions will be:

Content: What sort of information can be housed and what sorts of information are already being stored in such systems.

Movement of Data: How the data on the system moves to the person who needs it, electronic mail, document delivery, electronic bulletin boards, and networks.

Remote User: Who uses integrated systems, and how, what services are most important to them? Who pays? How much access is needed?

Workstation: What is the appropriate hardware and software for specific applications (scholar, student, business), what lies in the future.

Technology Transfer: How do the new technologies move from librarians, to librarians.

Services: How many electronic services do we offer, when do we stop?

Technical Expertise: What do we need to know, what types of expertise do we need.

The Computer Center: How does the library coordinate with other centers of electronic information. --Submitted by Caroline Harnly

STS SIGNAL is a semi-annual publication of the Science and Technology Section of ACRL designed as a communication vehicle to the members of the section and other interested parties. Short articles (400 words maximum) on topics of interest to the membership will be reviewed for publication. Electronic transmission of the materials is preferable and instructions for transmission are available on request. Inquires should be made to the editor, Deborah Dawson, Science Library, University of Wyoming, Box 3262 Univ. Station, Laramie, WY 82071. #307-766-4264

STS SIGNAL is published twice annually in May and November. Editorial deadlines for each issue are approximately April 1 and October 1. c American Library Association, 1988. STS SIGNAL is available to all section members at no additional charge and is available to nonsection members for \$5.00/yr or \$3.00 an issue through the ACRL Office.

REPORTS FROM MIDWINTER & PLANS FOR COMING CONFERENCES

Committee on Subject and Bibliographic Access to Science Materials: The Committee will provide a forum for exchanging information and expressing concerns regarding current issues in subject and bibliographic access to science materials. Topics suggested for discussion at future conferences include: 1. Subject enhancement of MARC Records; 2. Subject and bibliographic access to dissertations and non-book materials; 3. Subject access and Bibliographic Instruction; 3. Classification schemes as subject access mechanisms; 4. How researchers look for science materials; 5. Coping with changes in subject headings or classification schedules; and, 6. Selecting appropriate thesaurii.

Two topics are already scheduled for discussion; one for the New Orleans Conference, the other for the Washington Conference January 1989.

At the New Orleans Conference the Committee will sponsor a discussion on the means by which new terms are incorporated into Library of Congress Subject Headings, and in the Applied Science and Technology Index. Representatives from the Library of Congress and the Wilson Company may give presentations on the policies and procedures of their respective institutions during the discussion.

"Interdisciplinary research" will be the discussion topic at Midwinter 1989. As more interdisciplinary research is being done, assisting interdisciplinary researchers in retrieval of relevant material is becoming increasingly important. The Committee would like suggestions from ALA members on ways to structure the discussion on interdisciplinary research, as well as suggestions of names of guests who might be invited to contribute their expertise to the discussion. If you have suggestions, please write to the Chair: Sara Shatford Layne/1753 S. Sherbourne Dr./ Los Angeles, CA 90035 or attend the Committee Meeting 7/10/88 at New Orleans. --Submitted by Susan Moore and Sara Shatford Layne.

Publishers Relations Committee: Twenty people attended the San Antonio meeting with three topics discussed: the failure of certain important science publishers to exhibit at ALA; finding and identifying publishers that do exhibit; and the rising costs of science materials. A draft letter and questionnaire were discussed to be sent to non-exhibiting publishers to encourage their ALA attendance. The exhibiting publishers will be listed on the back of the summer program flyer to help attendees to locate science publishers in the exhibit hall. The thorniest problem, the rising cost of materials, needs to be addressed on a larger scale than any single committee or ALA division. The Committee urges the formation of a task force, association wide, to join forces with other organizations in an effective protest against the rising costs of library materials. * *The Committee's New Orleans Meeting 7/10/88 will continue work on these issues. --Submitted by Colleen Power, Chair.

Science and Technology Discussion Group: At the San Antonio Midwinter Meeting 1988, Dee Hoelle, Engineering Librarian at Princeton University led the discussion on tapping into faculty grants. According to Hoelle, the library rarely hears about faculty grants. Fortunately, Princeton librarians did find out about IBM Pegasus grants dealing with student use of microcomputers, and the library was able to make several proposals. Others offered suggestions as to how to forge better relationships with faculty active in grants. One suggestion was that the library write letters congratulating faculty that receive grants, and provide them with the name of the appropriate subject bibliographer to contact for assistance. With this contact, it is more likely that faculty will consider

the library in future grant proposals. It was noted that many universities take an overhead percentage out of faculty grants. Unfortunately, in most institutions, little of this money comes to the library. One good suggestion was that universities develop a database of profiles on grants. Each teaching faculty member or librarian could put their general proposal outlines into the database, and when new grant announcements came in, they could be matched with the stored profiles. Other suggestions for tapping into grants were the Council on Library Resources Grants for cooperative research between librarians and teaching faculty and to search Commerce Business Daily for grants information.

The Discussion Group also spent some time discussing serials cancellation. Almost all of the fifty or so librarians present noted that their libraries were considering dropping several journal subscriptions. Several librarians noted they had recently dropped Beilstein and Gmelin. Several voiced how they have involved the faculty in cancellations, and the importance of talking to faculty about the economics of scholarly publishing, especially to those faculty that are editors. It was noted also that librarians need to work with scientific associations concerning the escalation of journal prices.

* * At the New Orleans Meeting, the STS Discussion Group Topic will be "Legislative issues for Science Librarians." The Discussion will be led by the new STS Legislation Committee, chaired by Frederick Sepp.

--Submitted by Marty Kesselman.

1989 STS Program Planning Committee: 1989 STS Program Committee met for the first time in San Antonio. The Committee discussed in a very general way possible topics for the 1989 Conference in Dallas, and is trying to develop a program focusing on biotechnology. The Committee is looking for a keynote speaker who could give an overview of the field, explain some of the recent advances, and detail the pros and cons of biotechnology. The Committee would also like to find additional speakers to discuss the following topics: genetic engineering, bioethics, animal experimentation and rights, and the National Agricultural Library's collection in biotechnology. When the Committee's plans for the 1989 program become more definite, they will be announced in the STS Signal.

--Submitted by Caroline Harnly

Discussion Group on Science and Technology Databases: The Discussion Group on Science and Technology Databases met for the second time at San Antonio, with over 30 people in attendance. The primary topic for this session was BIOSIS' new end-user system--BIOSIS Connection. Carolyn Townsend, the Group Leader for Education at BIOSIS began the discussion with a brief overview of the Connection and talked about where they expect it to go in the future. Some of the major points which Carolyn stressed:

1. The Connection is geared towards end-users and is inexpensive.
2. It is not intended to compete with, or to replace BIOSIS Previews, their primary database which is available through other vendors.
3. They will be developing several small, inhouse databases to put up on the system. If you know of a database which might be of interest to others, let them know.
4. At present BIOSIS doesn't have any plans for CD.

A general discussion followed, covering a variety of topics including BRS On-Site, cancellation of print versus online availability, full-text databases, evaluation of search services we offer to our patrons.

--Submitted by Susanne Redalje and Janet Fore

STS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - San Antonio Meetings Highlights 1988

January 9, 1988- Kathy Chiang, chair, reviewed a draft list of all STS committees with the officers and discussed the present committee structure. Two new committees have been formed: Membership and Planning.

Decisions on committees were as follows:

1. It was decided to add one member-at-large to the Executive Committee.
2. The Planning Committee will be the research arm of the section, charged with proposing new activities and providing long range direction; the Executive Committee will review the projects and activities suggested by the Planning Committee. The 1987-8 charge for the Planning Committee: review idea of poster session/research forum; see if there is still interest in a task force dealing with approval plans; begin planning for STS Section review due Sept. 1989.
3. The Spring STS Newsletter will be used to advertise the program for the coming Annual Conference and to solicit topics for the next Midwinter meeting. The Fall STS Newsletter would be used to advertise the program for the coming Midwinter Meeting and to solicit topics for the next Annual Conference.
4. The 1987-88 charge to the Publisher Relations Committee is to clarify its relationship to other groups in ALA who have similar committees and find out what other sections are doing.
5. The 1987-88 charge to the Subject and Bibliographic Access to Science Materials Committee is to discuss the newsletter column idea and other projects in open forum.

January 12, 1988- Tom Kirk reported on the ACRL Board Meeting. Funds are available for special projects; one of the criteria will be how the proposal will draw membership into ACRL. ACRL continues to work with ALA on the operating agreement; the major issue is the overall relationship between and among divisions.

John Abbott reported on the first meeting of the new Planning Committee. The committee examined the issues of:

- 1) improved orientation for STS officers
- 2) a proposal from NAL to co-sponsor a micro poster/research forum,
- 3) a program on approval plans,
- 4) establishment of a legislative committee.

Several of the Planning committee issues were discussed.

It was decided that the NAL proposal was interesting, but would be more suitable as a discussion group which would also include IC and NLM. Kathy Chiang suggested that STS members could discuss their own research also. There could be a call for proposals in the STS SIGNAL, the proposals could be discussed at the annual conference in New Orleans, and those chosen presented at Washington Midwinter. Approval plans were put on the agenda for the next meeting. An ad hoc legislative committee was formed to decide whether there should be a standing legislative committee.

Other committee report highlights:

1. The past chair of the Section will serve as chair of the Nominating Committee each year.
2. The Committee for the Comparison of Science and Engineering Libraries reported that an analysis of the statistics they have collected will take place in New Orleans.
3. The Task Force on Conference Proceedings will complete its work in another two years.

--Submitted by Barbara Kautz

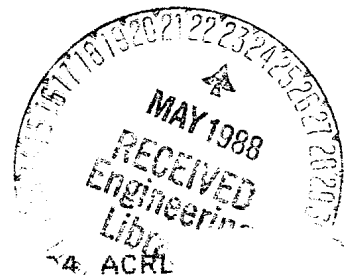
FROM THE CANDIDATES FOR VICE-CHAIR/CHAIR-ELECT

MARTY KESSELMAN - since becoming active in STS in 1980, I have seen it grow from a small group that only organized an annual program to a dynamic group of a few hundred active members working on several projects of vital interest to science librarians everywhere. I would like to think that I helped this phenomena along by also making the Section a forum for science librarians to discuss matters of mutual concern through my push for the establishment of the STS Discussion Group in 1986. Besides organizing and chairing the Discussion Group, I have been active on several conference planning committees, have chaired a nominating committee, and have served on the Oberly Award committee and Conference Proceedings Task Force. Besides my active participation within the American Library Association, I am co-editor and author of the book, End User Search Services and Providers (ALA,1988) and write the bimonthly "Online Update" column in Wilson Library Bulletin. As a candidate for the position of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of the Science and Technology Section, I bring with me these many years of experience with the section as well as my desire for the Section to continue to be responsive to the needs of sci-tech librarians.

LOIS M. PAUSCH - In recent years, the Science and Technology Section has become much more active in providing programs and projects in response to the stated interests and concerns expressed by members, including studies focused on conference proceedings and on subject access to science and materials. Better means of communication have also been established such as discussion groups and the STS Signal. Promotion of excellent library service in science and technology will be my primary goal as Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. To meet this goal will require the involvement of members to help in carrying out the activities already started and to expand the scope of STS activities to include other topics that are, or will become, important to science and technology libraries.

STS SIGNAL
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